



PRESS RELEASE

DELEGATION FROM USAID WASHINGTON VISITS FEED THE FUTURE PROGRAMS IN BANGLADESH

DHAKA, AUGUST 29 – Paul Weisenfeld, Assistant to the USAID Administrator for Food Security, and Denise Rollins, Senior Deputy Assistant Administrator for the USAID Asia Bureau, arrive in Bangladesh on August 29th for a six-day visit to further the partnership between the U.S. and Bangladesh to promote food security. They will meet with Government of Bangladesh (GoB) officials and visit programs in the south which have been funded by President Obama's Feed the Future Initiative. Mr. Weisenfeld leads the \$3.5 billion global initiative to work with partner countries, development partners, and other stakeholders to address food security issues.

On the first day of their visit, the USAID delegation will meet with the GoB Ministers of Agriculture, Food and Disaster Management, and Fisheries and Livestock to review achievements and progress towards food security. The visitors will also visit the Bangladesh Agricultural Research Institute (BARI).

On the following days, the delegation will review agricultural, nutrition and economic growth programs that have received funding through the Feed the Future Initiative in Khulna Division. Sites will include those featuring efficient use of fertilizer through urea deep placement techniques, the promotion of high value aquaculture and horticulture, the development of high quality seeds, and nutrition. In addition, Mr. Weisenfeld and Ms. Rollins will meet with U.S. implementing partners, agricultural association members, and private sector hatchery owners.

The U.S. Government, through USAID, has provided over \$5.8 billion in development assistance to Bangladesh since 1971. In 2011 alone, USAID provided more than \$180 million to improve the lives of people in Bangladesh. USAID supports programs in Bangladesh that: promote democratic institutions and practices, expand food security and economic opportunity, improve health and education services, and increase resiliency to climate change through adaptation and low carbon development.

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